tion for North Eastern parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the coal corporation for North Eastern parts of the country will provide any facilities to the industries/power projects in that area; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) No Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Action plan for more coal linkage to Southern and Western Regions

767. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to implement an action plan for large scale movement of coal to power stations in Southern and Western regions during the next five years;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the supply and demand of coal to power stations has been seriously affected during the last three years; and

(d) by when the proposed action plan would be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (d) Supply of coal to thermal power stations in western and southern regions has been posing some problems due to low coal production in Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. Movement plans for supply of coal to all thermal power stations including Southern and Western regions thermal power stations are worked out jointly by Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Railways and Deptt. of Power. The plan finalised recently for ten thermal power stations in western and southern regions envisages supply of 32.8 m.t. of coal for generating 43.4 billion units during the year 1992-93. This plan is under implementation. It is being updated every year. Supply of coal to power sector during the last year has been more or less according to the coal demand based on generation targets.

Rampant corruption in SECL

768. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SECL (South Eastern Coal-fields Ltd.) frequently changes the system of selling coal meant for free sale at West Korba in the State of Madhya Pradesh causing unavoidable hardships to the purchasers;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the system of middlemenship was totally abolished in the area but despite the ban middlemen are working freely in the areas and are being protected by the SECL authorities; and

(d) if so, what remedial action Government propose to take to remove the rampant corruption in SECL?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) and (b) SouthEastern Coalfields Ltd. (SECL) have reported that there have been no frequent changes in the system of selling coal meant for free sale from Korba West area of South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. The existing system has been developed taking into consideration the convenience of consumers. Since the introduction of free sale coal in Dipika projects of Korba West area, maximum of 1000 tonnes was being allowed per application, which was to be supplied within 15 days. However, due to heavy rush and long ques for this coal small consumers were being put to hardship. Hence, it was decided by SECL